

ATTENTION MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTERS

**Dove Hunters--This Includes You
You have to be
H.I.P. To Hunt**

Registration with HIP (National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program) is required to hunt migratory game birds in Illinois.

You must register each year you hunt.

Do you hunt doves, ducks, geese, snipe, woodcock, coots or rails in Illinois? All licensed hunters must register with HIP if they intend to hunt these migratory birds. It's free and it's easy.

After purchasing your new hunting or Sportsman's license each year, just dial 1-800-WETLAND. You will be asked to provide your name, address, and some information about past hunting activities. At the end of the transaction, you will be given a unique authorization number to record in the space provided on your license. You cannot hunt migratory birds without a HIP authorization number.

Why Collect Harvest Information?

Better information is needed to fully understand the impact of hunting on wildlife resources. *Inadequate information about the impact of hunting on species populations has been used to legally challenge hunting seasons in some states.*



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) survey of hunters who purchase federal duck stamps yields waterfowl harvest information, but the precision of these estimates can be improved. Also, this survey does not include an estimated 2.3 million hunters of doves, woodcock, and other migratory game birds. Differing methods and timing of state surveys make it impossible to estimate the migratory bird harvest at the national level.

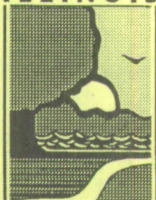
How Does HIP Work?

The information that hunters provide when registering with HIP is deposited in a confidential data bank. With this information, the USFWS will survey hunters to estimate harvests of migratory game birds. Selected hunters will receive hunter report cards before or during the hunting seasons. They will be asked to record daily hunt information and return completed cards at the end of the hunting seasons. The survey will enable the USFWS and the states to more accurately determine the status of our migratory bird resources.

Thank You

Cooperation and support from hunters make sound resource management possible. The NATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM began in Illinois in 1996 and will be phased in nationwide by 1998. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources-Division of Wildlife Resources, in keeping with the highest tradition of resource management, is proud to participate in this program. For more information, call 217/782-6384.

ILLINOIS



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL
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Illinois Department
of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife Resources